



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913

PH (517) 373.6920 | FAX (517) 373.2751

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Contact: Darin Ackerman  
(517) 373-6920

## **Kuipers to Participate in Operation Adopt-A-Family**

*Senator will provide community resource information to families of troops*

**(LANSING)** – As the nation begins a war with Iraq, state Senator Wayne Kuipers, R-Holland, will participate in Operation Adopt-A-Family, a program established to provide emotional, financial and spiritual support to families of deployed military troops.

“Operation Adopt-A-Family is a terrific community endeavor that will provide day-to-day support for military families while their loved ones are away fighting for our nation,” Kuipers said. “I encourage all members of the community including families of deployed military personnel, local citizens, businesses and organizations to contact my office to participate in this program.”

Kuipers will aide in providing help for families in three ways, linked together by encouraging local organizations to “adopt” families who may need assistance:

- Local organizations will be enlisted to help families in their search to alleviate hardships directly resulting from the deployment of their spouses or parents.
- Partnerships will be formed between the local organizations and public service groups within communities to maintain an “adoptive” relationship with the families of Michigan’s deployed military personnel.
- Support will be generated from the general public and the Legislature to provide funding for the Family Support Network.

Senator Kuipers is asking families of deployed military personnel who are in need of assistance to contact his Lansing office, where he will then put the family in contact with

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a local business or organization.

Members of the community, along with local businesses and organizations, are also encouraged by Senator Kuipers to participate in the program. Any local resident or business interested in providing support is encouraged to contact Senator Kuipers at 1-(877)-KUIPERS.